



Hendry County Sheriff's Office

General Order 19.13

TITLE: Handcuffs and Other Restraints	SHERIFF'S APPROVAL: Digital
ORIGINATION DATE: August 5, 2018	REVISION DATE: May 24, 2019
RELATED REFERENCES: CFA: 21.04M, 21.07M	
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I. PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for using handcuffs and other restraints.

II. SCOPE: This order shall apply to all sheriffs' office members.

III. POLICY: All prisoners being transported will be securely restrained, except where special situations exist. All restraints will be applied in a manner consistent with accepted police practices and emphasis will be placed on minimizing the physical discomfort of the person being restrained while maintaining deputy safety. At the discretion of the arresting and/or transporting deputy, more than one type of restraint may be used to ensure the safety of the deputy and the safety of the person being transported. No unauthorized restraining devices will be utilized by members of the Hendry County Sheriff's Office.

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Handcuffs

1. All handcuffs must double lock and unlock with a standard key.
2. All sworn personnel, with the exception of employees working in an undercover operation, will have access to handcuffs and handcuff keys at all times while on duty.
3. Deputies will be responsible for the maintenance and efficient operation of their handcuffs.

B. General Rules

1. A female prisoner will not be handcuffed to a male prisoner except in an emergency.
2. A juvenile will not be handcuffed to an adult except in an emergency.
3. Deputies will neither handcuff themselves to prisoners nor use a single cuff as a pain compliance device.

4. Deputies will not handcuff prisoners to a fixed object except in an emergency, or when said object is specifically designed for such use.
5. If a prisoner complains of discomfort from the handcuffs, the deputy should check the handcuffs for proper application and/or injury. If the deputy determines the handcuffs require adjustment, the deputy preferably will summon another deputy or officer to stand by as back-up while the handcuffs are adjusted.

C. Use of Handcuffs

1. Under normal circumstances, prisoners will be handcuffed with hands behind their back.
2. When applied, the handcuffs will be double-locked.

D. Special Situations

1. Special situations may require the deputy to use discretion in how a prisoner is restrained. It is the deputy's responsibility, when deciding not to use restraints, to protect him/her, the public, and persons in custody.
2. The transporting deputy will use their judgment and discretion to determine the appropriate level of restraints on persons being Baker Acted, handicapped persons, juveniles, elderly persons, persons with an injury or illness, or on anyone where restraints are not feasible.
3. If an arrested person is being transported to a medical facility by ambulance, the deputy responsible for custody and control should ensure that the person is properly secured, in conjunction with EMS procedure. A deputy will either ride inside the ambulance or follow directly behind the ambulance. Once at the hospital the deputy will remain with the person until properly relieved.

E. Other Restraints

1. The following is a list of authorized restraining devices that may be used alone or in combination with the handcuffs.
 - a. Flex-cuffs
 - b. Hobbles/nylon straps
 - c. Leather body straps
 - d. Belly chains
 - e. Lead chains
 - f. Leg braces
 - g. Leg irons/ankle chains
 - h. Weighted ankle boot
2. The technique of securing a prisoner's hands to his/her feet behind his/her back is prohibited, except in exigent circumstances where the deputy or prisoner's safety is at risk. When this

technique is used, deputies will document the exigent circumstances in the case report. Deputies will monitor prisoners restrained by this method for signs of physical distress.

F. Training Procedures for Restraining Devices

1. Sworn personnel will receive training in the proper use and application of all authorized restraining devices prior to use. Training will be documented and maintained by the Training Director.

G. Court Security and Jail Personnel

1. The use of restraining devices by Court Security and Jail personnel will be consistent with this procedure and division/unit specific Standard Operating Procedures.

V. GLOSSARY:

HANDCUFF – A pair of lockable linked metal rings for securing a prisoner’s wrists.

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